

- a third data entry system through which information about luggage are entered into the computer system, the third information for each luggage including make, color, size, condition, and associate RF chip;
  - a database storage system that stores and retrieves the first, second, and third information about the registrant including associated luggage; and
  - a fourth data entry system through which information about travel itineraries are entered into the computer system, the fourth information including individual travel segment reservations;
  - a fifth data entry system through which information about Service Providers are entered into the computer system, the fifth information for each service provider including at least a contact name and Email address;
  - a database storage system that stores and retrieves the fourth and fifth information about travel itineraries and the corresponding services providers; and
  - A sixth data entry system through which information about Open Travel Alliance members are entered into the computer system, the sixth information for each Open Travel Alliance members including at least a contact name and Email address;
  - a database storage system that stores and retrieves the sixth information about Open Travel Alliance members and associated business rules;
  - whereby the mySkyCap service facilitates seamless connection between travelers and service providers for the managing transportation of passengers and luggage.
13. The mySkyCap as in claim 12 wherein the first, second, third, fourth, fifth, and sixth data entry system comprises a client application running on a user computer;
  14. The mySkyCap as in claim 12 further comprising updating means for updating the database storage system as travel itineraries are confirmed and registrants update their profile.
  15. The mySkyCap as in claim 12 further comprising a database storage system, which resides on one or more computers at one or more sites that work in tandem.
  16. An apparatus comprising:
    - an embedded computer chip with unique identification for tracking luggage.

## ABSTRACT

An online Skycap Service provides for the use of managing luggage handling services across multiple service partners and destinations. It further provides for the tracking of luggage via an embedded RF chip. Users and Service Providers initially register with the mySkyCap Service and are provided additional functionality. For users, the system provides for families to schedule all the individual travel segments separately and have the entire itinerary transaction acted upon as a single financial transaction. It also allows for a hassle-free method for the transportation of luggage between travel destinations. For Service Providers, the ability to track luggage and associate it with travelers provides for increased security. A distinct advantage of this system is that it allows for the pickup and drop off of luggage at the convenience of the traveler and allows them to travel without worrying about their luggage. Another advantage is that it saves time from having to deal with luggage check-in and out at each destination – this is especially advantageous for large families with lots of children.